

orders withdrawing the holders of Ph.D degree from NET eligibility for the post of lecturer in Universities and the constituent colleges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a lot of resentment among the Ph.D holders on this score and if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The UGC considered the matter in its meeting held on 27.1.2000 and expressed concern about the standard of Ph.D. which vary from university-to-university and keeping Ph.D. as alternative qualification for NET leads towards recruitment of highly specialised persons in a narrow area and also inbreeding in the teaching posts. The Commission, therefore, decided that PH.D. holders may not be exempted from the NET and NET (or its equivalent examination accredited by the Commission) be made compulsory qualification for appointment as Lecturer, even for the candidates having Ph.D. degree.

(c): Representations have been received by the Commission expressing support as well as reservations in respect of the decision. The decision has been taken on merits and in the interest of maintaining uniform standards of education.

Advisory committee for recognition of qualification

2888. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 711, given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2000 and state:

(a) the details including names, etc. of the Chairman, Members, terms of reference and tenure of High Level Committee in the Ministry which advises Government in matters of recognition of qualification; and

(b) by when the High Powered Committee would present its report regarding review of the Mumbai Institute?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The High Level Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Education Secretary to Government of

India in the Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education on a permanent basis with the following ex-officio members:—

1. Special Secretary/Education Adviser (Technical), Ministry of Human Resource Development (2) Secretary/Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information Technology (3) Additional Secretary, Department of Science & Technology. 4. a representative of Department of Personnel & Training not below the rank of Joint Secretary (5) Joint Secretary (Higher Education) Ministry of Human Resource Development (6) Chairperson/Member Secretary, All India Council for Technical Education (7) Chairperson/Vice Chairperson, University Grants Commission (8) Secretary-General Association of Indian Universities (9) A representative of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (10) A representative of Union Public Service Commission as special invitee and (11) A representative from Education Division of the Planning Commission not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government of India as special invitee (12) Director (Technical)/DEA(Technical)/DS Ministry of Human Resource Development as Member Secretary of the High Level Committee.

The Committee will examine the standards of all Educational Qualifications except concerning Health and medical subjects and will advise what recognition if any should be accorded for the purpose of recruitment to the posts under Central Government.

(b) The High Level Committee has constituted a group under the Chairmanship of the Joint Secretary, Department of Secondary Education & Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development to review the overall functioning of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (India), a Mumbai based Institute. The group has been asked to submit its report within 2 months. The High Level Committee would give its report after the group submits its report regarding the said Institute.

Regularising peons in CBSE regional office

2889. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that some peons appointed on daily-wage in the then CBSE Regional Office at Ranchi in June, 1990, are still working in the same capacity.

(b) whether it is a fact that orders were issued from the headquarters of CBSE to the Regional Office, Ranchi to regularise services of these peons.